

Washington, DC – U.S. Congressman Mike Pence voted today to increase domestic energy production and create jobs by supporting a bill that would expedite the EPA's permitting process for off-shore oil exploration. H.R. 2021, the Jobs and Energy Permitting Act, passed the House by a vote of 253-166.

"With gas prices in Indiana up nearly a dollar from a year ago, and with unemployment rates still at heartbreaking levels, Hoosiers and the American people, now more than ever, deserve access to our own energy resources.

"This Administration continues to follow practices that will drive up the price at the pump and send even more American jobs overseas. This bill will expedite the process in which the EPA considers exploration permits and eliminate needless delays that slow domestic energy exploration. I applaud the work of my colleagues in developing an all-of-the-above energy solution that will create jobs and help to end our dependence on foreign sources of energy."

Background:

Specifically, H.R. 2021, the Jobs and Energy Permitting Act would streamline the energy permitting process by:

- Creating a deadline for final agency action by the EPA and clarify judicial review
- Clarifying that air quality impacts are to be measured onshore, calculating emissions at the point where they could impact the public
- Clarifying when drilling equipment and vessels are to be regulated as stationary sources, and when they are regulated as mobile sources